You only need to grind down about 1/16 to 1/8 of an inch of concrete to remove old sealant. This shallow depth removes the surface layer where the sealant sits and bonds. Deeper grinding is rarely needed unless the concrete is uneven or the sealant soaked deep into wide cracks.

Grinding Depth and Tools

- **Depth:** 1/16 to 1/8 inch.
- **Goal:** Strip the top surface clean.
- **Tool:** Use a walk-behind or hand grinder with a diamond cup wheel.
- **Pads:** Coarser grit segments (like 16 to 30 grit) work best for cutting through stubborn sealants.

Tips for Best Results

- Test a small, hidden spot first.
- Keep the grinder moving to avoid gouging low spots in the floor.
- Wear a dust mask and use a vacuum shroud because concrete dust is harmful.